

ABSTRACT

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CUSTOMER BILLING IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

10 In a packet communications network, e.g. a third generation wireless network, combined billing of a user is provided for the delivery of communications services to that user and for the on-line purchase of goods and services by the user via the communications network. A set of rules is provided and a respective billing tariff and account is determined from the rules and each packet address. Credit transfers are made between user accounts and the accounts of goods/services supplies held in a common database.